

## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

## INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION

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The following is a summary of Soviet activity along the Iranian border for the weekly period 27 February to 4 March 1952.

Pol Dasht

1. In this area, where trains move in four directions, rail traffic was comparatively lighter during the week reported, but loaded freight cars moving toward the west showed an increase. The number of night trains and tank cars also decreased during this period. The loads carried in this area were similar to those transported last week, i.e., firewood, posts, timber, lumber, plaster, boxes, trucks, and coal. The number of trains moving in the various directions was as follows:
  - a. Nakhichevan to Dzhulfa: 14 trains, including 160 freight cars
  - b. Dzhulfa to Nakhichevan: 11 trains, including 272 freight cars
  - c. Nakhichevan to Yerevan: 21 trains, including 421 freight cars
  - d. Yerevan to Nakhichevan: 11 trains, including 345 freight cars

Dzhulfa

2. This week there was a decrease in the number of trains but an increase in the number of boxcars over last week, 153 of which moved westward. Tank cars proceeding westward to Nakhichevan also increased by 65 cars. The number of freight cars decreased, while the number of boxcars increased, as in other areas. Trains in this area included many empty cars; others transported iron pipes, lumber, and trucks, similar to last week's loads.

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Khuda Afarin

3. Rail traffic decreased during this week. Even boxcars, the number of which increased in other areas, diminished in this area. However, the number of boxcars was greater than that observed in the Sia Rud area. There was an increase in the number of freight cars moving from Baku to Dzhulfa. There was an increase of 22 passenger cars over the previous week. Passenger cars moved eastward.
4. Loaded cars in the area included timber, coal, trucks, and wire. A considerable number of empty cars were observed in this area. Therefore, it is possible that some construction activity is in progress in the area between Khuda Afarin and Sia Rud.
5. According to information published in a Communist newspaper in Yerevan, there is an important factory producing canned meat at Kafan (N 39-12, E 46-26), located in Mindzhevan Valley, between Khuda Afarin and Sia Rud. The railroad running along the border has a side track leading toward this factory. It is possible that some of the large wooden boxes carried by border railroads, especially in wintertime, contain meat packed at this factory. At the same time, because the factory is still under construction, it is possible that the empty cars are some which have carried building materials and mechanical equipment to Kafan. At any rate, the number of empty railroad cars in this area surpasses that of other areas.

Sia Rud

6. Loads conveyed in this area were similar to those of last week, consisting of timber, poles, lumber, coal, automobiles, iron pipe, iron boxes, wooden boxes, barrels, stoves, trucks, engines, stone, and empty cars.

Night Trains

7. In general, night train traffic was lighter this week than last.

	<u>Pol Dasht</u>	<u>Dzhulfa</u>	<u>Sia Rud</u>	<u>Khuda Afarin</u>
Last week:	48	23	24	---
This week:	45	24	25	---

Tank Cars

8. A decrease in the total number of tank cars has been noted, compared with last week, but a comparative increase has been shown in the two areas of Dzhulfa and Sia Rud as follows:

	<u>Pol Dasht</u>	<u>Dzhulfa</u>	<u>Sia Rud</u>	<u>Khuda Afarin</u>
Last week:	212	95	96	111
This week:	182	153	142	34

Tabulation of Cars Observed in All the Areas

9. Pol Dasht: Last week: 729 cars westbound; 568 cars eastbound  
This week: 581 cars westbound; 617 cars eastbound  
Daily maximum: Last week: 141 cars  
This week: 217 cars  
Daily average: Last week: 187 cars  
This week: 171 cars

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Dzhulfa: Last week: 313 cars westbound; 287 cars eastbound  
This week: 306 cars westbound; 350 cars eastbound

Daily maximum: Last week: 203 cars  
This week: 134 cars

Daily average: Last week: 85 cars  
This week: 95 cars

Sia Rud: Last week: 394 cars westbound; 349 cars eastbound  
This week: 368 cars westbound; 319 cars eastbound

Daily maximum: Last week: 224 cars  
This week: 128 cars

Daily average: Last week: 106 cars  
This week: 98 cars

Khuda Afarin:<sup>1</sup> Last week: 762 cars westbound; 633 cars eastbound  
This week: 816 cars westbound; 403 cars eastbound

Daily maximum: Last week: 210 cars  
This week: 247 cars

Daily average: Last week: 194 cars  
This week: 174 cars

#### Activities of Border Units and Garrisons

10. Dzhulfa has again been the center of activities and maneuvers. Compared with previous weeks, activities have increased considerably. Approximately 810 soldiers, equipped with 3 guns and 1 mortar, took part in these maneuvers. Comparison with last week's 235 soldiers and officers shows that military operations have increased considerably this week.
11. The following figures show the increase of road traffic during this period.

	<u>Trucks</u>	<u>Automobiles</u>	<u>Jeeps</u>	<u>Motorcycles</u>
Last week:	315	34	31	12
This week:	410	39	28	13

The total number of soldiers transported in the area during this week was 915, an increase of 165 soldiers over last week.

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